

How elderly citizen is maintaining broken park equipment used by visitors as authorities concerned turn a blind eye

AGE AGAINST THE MACHINE

Members of laughter club pitch in for maintenance

| Shreyashi Mukherjee
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Citizens visiting the park at OMBR Layout in Banaswadi used to be upset about the broken equipment of the open gym there.

However, their troubles did not last long as Irudaya Nadan, a retired central government employee and a resident of the area, took it upon himself to fix the broken equipment.

Nadan has been a visitor to the park for the last five years. "Initially, the equipment at the park was in good condition. However, visitors were using them from morning till night; so obviously there has been some wear and tear because of which the condition of the equipment deteriorated," he said.

He tried to get in touch with the authority responsible for maintaining the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >>



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PARTY PREP

Police up drunken driving checks ahead of new year



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3 THINGS TO DO



01 Furry Christmas

Enjoy your Christmas day at Cubbon Park by celebrating 'The Santa Bow WOW 2022'. Starting at 9am, grab the chance to have fun with your dog at the event. Make sure that you and your pet are wearing festive red.
Where: Weekend Cubbon Dog Park
When: Sunday, December 25; 9 am-10 am



02 Dramatic works

If you are a lover of plays, here's a chance for you to watch the leading amateur theatre group of Karnataka, Antharanga. For the past 42 years the group has been actively involved in performing varieties of plays. The group is organising a three-day drama festival that is absolutely free. They will be conducting a discussion on the first day, followed by performance of two plays, directed by Hulugappa Kattimani.
Where: KH Kalasoudha, Hanumanthnagar
When: December 28 to 30; 6:30 pm

03 Rhythm and beats



London International Arts Festival (LIAF) is back with its eleventh edition. Hosted by Dhruv Arts, the event is a celebration of the city's most exciting music. The virtual event will feature an eclectic line-up of artists. The performance would mark the celebration of many colourful cultures of global music.
Where: virtual, streamed from Bengaluru
When: Tuesday to Friday, December 27 to 30

Shine on, talented stars

After a long gap, schools in city are once again busy organising annual and sports days to give kids a chance to showcase their extra-curricular skills

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The buzz is back in school campuses as most of the schools are now busy celebrating annual days and sports carnivals. In fact, for the primary and pre-primary students, annual days were an 'alien' word so far, as schools had restricted themselves from conducting any programmes in the last two years. According to sources, many Bengaluru schools conducted their annual days in the last few days and a few more are planning to conduct as soon as possible following a covid surge in other countries.

"Annual days are the most awaited days. It is a sort of reunion for parents and school staff. The last two years have been a tough time as school academics were largely restricted to online mode," said a school principal.

"Though a few schools tried the concept of having virtual cultural programmes, it can never match with physical programmes. In 2022, till now, we have been lucky not to have any disruption in the academic year. Therefore, many schools decided to conduct annual days before the year comes to an end," he added.

"The annual day presents a great opportunity for kids to mingle with others. As there are a host of cultural programmes planned, kids get a chance to show their extracurricular activities," said another school principal. "This year, though we didn't have any covid disruption, there were worries on the weather front as Bengaluru witnessed heavy rainfall. Thankfully, we were spared mostly in December for conducting cultural activities," he added. Apart from annual days, many schools are or-



Children of KMV Red Hills High School participate in the annual day celebrations held recently. Several schools in the city are planning to conduct sports day too



ganising sports carnivals.

Divya Gowda, a school teacher, told Bangalore Mirror that sports are essential along with academics. However, the last two years have shown that many students are not actually inclined towards sports.

"Many are not allowed to step out of the house and a few of them have developed the fear of being detached from mobile

phones. So, we are taking care of arranging sport events, it will give a chance to all the students to show their sporting skills," she said.

"Sports are also a great bonding factor and help kids to learn the sportsman spirit. In the last two years, we hardly had any sports activity. Many students who are good in sports could not compete at various competi-

"The annual day gives an opportunity to children to mingle with others"

— a school principal

tive levels," she added. After the sports carnival and annual days are wrapped, city schools will focus on the exams in the next year. However, the covid fear is lurking many of them.

D Shashi Kumar, General Secretary of Associated Managements of Primary and Secondary Schools, Karnataka, said, "As of now there is nothing to fear as we have taken all the safety precautions. Yet, we don't want to take any chances. Hence, we have instructed our member schools to take up all the necessary safety measures by strictly following the standard operating procedure (SOP)."

VK Chitrakalotsava exhibition till January 2

VK Chitrakalotsava award programme and exhibition of selected art works were held on Saturday at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath (KCP). Senior artist Rekha Rao inaugurated the programme while Higher Education Minister Dr CN Ashwath Narayan distributed awards to young artists whose art works were selected for the awards.

Presiding over the function, KCP president BL Shankar, said, "Vijay Karnataka (VK) has

shown its social concern by organising various programmes across sectors."

VK Editor Sudarshan Channangihalli, said, "This programme has been organised to provide a platform to young artists coming from different parts of the state.

Senior artist and jury member Gurudas Shenoy, said, "I appreciate VK for taking up this wonderful initiative."



Bangalore Mirror and VK CEO Ranjeet Kate, jury members AM Prakash, K Ravi, and art historian Dr Pameela Lochan were

present. The art exhibition will be open to the public till January 2 at Seven Galleries, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath. — BMB

Man finds pen drive, uses content for blackmail



Woman files complaint after receiving threats that her personal pictures would be put in public domain if she didn't pay

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The city police have arrested a man who is accused of blackmailing a woman by threatening her using photos of her in the nude. According to the police, the accused has been identified as Sohaib, a painter by profession.

The young woman had lost her pen drive in which she had kept private photos and videos. The accused is said to have found the pen drive. Then he somehow got the girl's number from the documents in the pen-drive. Later, he sent the photos of the pen drive to the young woman through WhatsApp and demanded Rs 70,000.

"He told the young woman that he would only return the pen drive if she paid money. The woman is about 24 years old. She is a working woman," said the police.

Later, the young woman lodged a complaint with the Bangalore South East division cyber police. On the basis of the complaint, a trap was laid for the accused. Police have arrested accused Shoaib on technical grounds.

Man attacked for remarks on Puneeth Rajkumar

A man named Puneeth Kerehalli, was allegedly assaulted by pro-Kannada activist Shivakumar and his gang for making derogatory remarks against Puneeth Rajkumar.

Shivakumar and his team are said to have ambushed Puneeth on Friday around 9 pm. After that, police officers from Chamarajpet visited the spot and made an inspection.

Puneeth Kerehalli is said to have been scathing in his criticism of Puneeth Rajkumar, infuriating a number of the star's supporters, who attacked Kerehalli online.

Additionally, Kerehalli had posted about his whereabouts on a social media post, which led to Shivakumar and his gang to show up, assault him, and demand an apology.

Snatched!

A man was arrested for snatching a gold chain on the road in Kodigehalli Police Station limits last week.

On December 12, a woman named Ashwini was walking on the road near 17th Cross, Sahakar Nagar, when a man came from behind and grabbed her gold chain weighing about 45 grams.

"The accused robbed a gold chain from a woman who was walking on the road and escaped. The accused came from behind and attacked the woman. He grabbed the gold chain but couldn't get all of it. The victim held the gold chain tightly and 10 grams of the chain remained in her hands while he escaped with the remaining 35 grams on a two-wheeler," said the police.

The arrest was carried under the leadership of Anoop Shetty, Deputy Commissioner of Police, North East Division.

Meanwhile the Chikkajala police too have arrested a man who used to travel on a two-wheeler to snatch chains and mobile phones. On December 6, M Sambaram had filed a complaint after he lost his phone.

"At 4:30 am, I had come to Hunasamaranahalli and was booking a cab on my mobile phone to go home, when a person came towards me on a scooter. He snatched my mobile phone and escaped," the victim said in the complaint.

The price of the mobile is said to be Rs.35,000. A case was registered under Section 392 of the IPC.

The police caught two people in their early 20s, Naresh and Rahul. They were investigated and a gold chain weighing 20 grams, three smartphones worth about Rs 55,000 and their vehicle were seized from them.

2 held, drugs worth Rs 35 lakh seized

Two people have been arrested for drug peddling in Konankunte Cross Police station limits.

The police have seized drugs worth Rs 35 lakh from them.

The accused have been identified as Begil Sethi and Murli.

During investigation, it was learnt that the accused had bought the ganja from Odisha and Andhra Pradesh border region at a low price and were planning to sell it to the public at a higher price on New Year's Day.

A case has been registered and investigation has been conducted as per NDPS Act 1985.

CRIME FILES

The arrest was made under the guidance of Krishnakanth P, Deputy Commissioner of Police, South Division.

Suspected case of gangrape in Koppal

A man has been arrested in Koppal district in connection with the sexual assault of a Class 8 student, police said on Saturday, adding that the victim is

also suspected to have been gang raped.

According to the police, the incident came to light after the girl's parents observed changes in her body. Further medical tests revealed that she is currently six-months pregnant.

The police said that the girl had not shared any detail about the incident fearing backlash from family members and social stigma.

Sources have said that the victim is yet to share details of the incident as she is under mental trauma. The police are working on the clues given by the victim to her parents. More details are yet to emerge in the case.

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Har Pal Aapke Saath

Short walk to improve state of the pavement

HSR Layout residents to ditch vehicles while dropping kids off to school; they are doing so to shine spotlight on sorry state of footpaths in their area

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

To ensure road safety for school children and encourage parents to walk their kids to school instead of using their vehicles, citizens of HSR Layout have come together to start the Walk2School Campaign.

The aim of the campaign is to make footpaths more walkable and safe with the help of BBMP and traffic police.

"While we are demanding for the Active Mobility Bill to get passed, it is important that we start the change on a smaller level on our own. A lot of parents struggle to drop their kids off to school because of the poor state of footpaths and roads around school zones. We are starting this campaign to make 250 m of the footpath walkable on 24th Main till Vibgyor School, HSR Layout. This is a small step towards a bigger campaign and we hope we are able to expand this to the entire city," said Lalithamba BV, a social activist from the area.

Many parents choose to take private vehicles to drop their children off at school even for shorter distances like 300-700 m as the condition of footpaths is really bad.

The footpaths are broken and slabs are missing. The presence of many private vehicles is one of the major reasons behind congestion near school areas, she said, adding that walking to school, especially for



Citizens say that even if they want to walk their kids to the school, it is an issue due to the lack of space; activists are also of the opinion that parents walking their wards to school could be good for bonding

distances less than one kilometre, will not only help regulate traffic but will also be a healthy exercise for children. "It will also give the parents 10 extra minutes to chat with their children in the morning and would act as a bonding exercise. We are positive that this campaign will be a success," Lalithamba further said.

Citizens have gotten in touch with BBMP contractors and have demanded the broken footpaths be fixed at the earliest. They have also demanded the traffic police penalise vehicles parked on footpaths to cre-

The footpaths are almost unusable with broken slabs and trees growing in the middle of it. There are two-wheelers parked on the footpaths

— Manjumathi, parent

ate a safe space for pedestrians.

However, the unavailability of footpaths and walkable space on roads is an issue all around the city. Many parents have complained

about the danger this poses.

"I walk my daughter to school every morning and it is a nuisance. The footpaths are almost unusable with broken slabs and trees growing in the middle of it. There are two-wheelers parked on the footpaths almost all day long, so we have to walk on the road alongside heavy traffic. I cannot even let my daughter walk alone to school as it is very dangerous. Campaigns like these are important to make the authorities realise the problems that we citizens go through on a daily basis," said Manjumathi, a parent.

Senior citizen fixing park equipment

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

equipment. Despite promising that they would fix the equipment at the park soon, they never showed up. Nadan informed everyone he could so that they could come forward and help in maintaining the machines.

"The equipment is used by a lot of people including senior citizens. But most of them never showed up or gave excuses. So, I started doing whatever was possible to maintain the equipment so everyone could use them without a problem," he said. Some of the equipment at the park had lost paddles, so Nadan replaced them. He oils each equipment so that they work smoothly.

Nadan is a member of the laughter club in the area comprising several senior citizens living nearby. The members of the club also pitched in for the maintenance of the equipment.

Prabhakar, one of the members of the club, said: "For the past few months, some equipment at the park was not working; even after many reminders, those responsible for maintaining the park did not tend to it. Even the park security did not take care of the equipment. So, we are not depending on them anymore. We will maintain the equipment ourselves. The other members are cooperative."

Vishwanath Segu, another member of the laughter club, said: "Everybody likes maintaining the park; it does not require too much money." Tina Joseph, another resident of the area has been visiting the park for the last five months. She has been noticing the work done by Nadan.

"For the last five months, I have started to walk; I often visit this park to use the open gym. One day, I noticed him fixing a paddle. On asking



him more about it, he said that since it is our park, we should maintain it. It is really nice to see the elderly doing this because people usually just come here, make use of the facilities and go," she said.

Some felt that those using the

fitness equipment should be careful and use them with care. "People do not use them with care, especially children. It is not their fault, but the parents should be careful and instruct them," PL Joseph, another resident of the area, said.

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Dirty road Chamarajpet



BWSSB work has been going on in 3rd Main Road, 2nd Cross, Chamarajpet for almost 15 days. The area is full of debris, sewage.

Accident zone Oil Mill Road



This water pipeline and pothole in front of Muthoot Finance, Oil Mill Road is causing accidents daily.

Danger ahead Coles Park



An electric junction box on this footpath near Coles Park is dangerously obstructing pedestrians.

How many assets do MLAs, MLCs have? No idea

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Thirty four MLAs and 24 MLCs are yet to file their assets and liabilities with the Karnataka Lokayukta for the year 2021-22.

According to Section 22 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, "Every public servant referred to in sub-section (1) of section 7, other than a government servant, shall within three months after the commencement of this Act and thereafter before June 30 of every year, submit to the Lokayukta in the prescribed form a statement of his assets and

liabilities and those of the members of his family."

It may be recalled that 114 MLAs among the 224, and 49 MLCs among 75 failed to file their assets and liabilities for the year 2020-21.

MLCs such as Prakash K Rathod, Allam Veerabhadraappa, Ayanur Manjunath, Adagur H Vishwanath, ML Anil Kumar, BM Farooq, Ganapathi Dumma Ulvekar, Nazeer Ahmed, KP Nanjundi Vishwakarma, KS Naveen, PH Poojar, PR Ramesh, HM Ramesh Gowda, KT Srikanth Gowda, Shahil G Namoshi, SV Sankanura, R Shankar, Saleem Ahmed, Sunil Gowda Patil, R B Thimmapura, Dr Tejaswini Gowda, KA Thippeswamy, D Thimmaiah,

“MLAs, MLCs are supposed to file their assets and liabilities on or before June 30, but they did not even six months after the deadline

—HM Venkatesh, activist

and CP Yogeshwar did not file their assets and liabilities with the Lokayukta till December 17, 2022.

According to the documents available with Bangalore Mirror, MLAs such as Dr Anjali Hemanth

Nimbalkar, Siddhu Savadi, MY Patil, Rajkumar Patil, Dr Avinash Umesh Jadhav, Sharanu Salagar, Rahim Khan, Basanagowda Turuvihal, Basavaraj Dadesugur, Paranna Eshwarappa Munavali, Dinakara Keshava Shetty, Nehru Olekar, Arun Kumar Guththur, B Sriramulu, S Ramappa, Lalaji R Menden, MP Kumaraswamy, JC Madhuswamy, MV Veerabhadraiah, GK Krishna Reddy, K Srinivasa Gowda, KY Nanjegowda, R Manjunath, BZ Zameer Ahmed, Sathish Reddy M, DK Shivakumar, M Srinivasa, CN Balakrishna, KS Lingesh, HP Manjunath, N Mahesh, CS Niranjan Kumar, and Vinisha Nero did not file their assets and liabilities

with Lokayukta till December 20, 2022.

HM Venkatesh, who applied for the information under RTI Act about MLAs and MLCs who did not file their assets for 2021-22, said that elected representatives who violated the Act are cheating the public.

"Elected representatives are supposed to file their assets and liabilities on or before June 30, but these politicians did not bother to do so even six months after the deadline. The defaulters include the Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs. I am of the opinion that this minister does not have the right to tell the people to follow rules and regulations," said Venkatesh.

Party, but with responsibility

Police level up surveillance for drunken driving ahead of new year

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With new years' eve approaching, people are in a festive mood all around the city.

Traffic police have also geared up in preparation and increased surveillance for drunken drive cases.

Bengaluru special commissioner of Police Traffic MA Saleem said that they started the drive against drunken driving cases on Friday night, December 23, and registered 146 cases against people driving under the influence of alcohol in just one night.

Traffic police say that the cases of drunken driving almost double during the end of the year, which is why they have to pay special attention.

"On Friday night, we booked 57 people just in the West division of the city alone through surveillance and surprise checks. We understand that people are in a festive mood, however, it is very important to be responsible for your own safety and for the safety of fellow road users," Kuldeep Kumar R Jain, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), West Division told Bangalore Mirror.

However, traffic police said the cases are still not very high in the city and they are making sure that the situation stays under control for the days to come.

"We did intense surveillance on Friday night and even our traffic police team is putting a lot of manpower and time into the same. We checked almost 500 vehicles in one night and



Surveillance is likely to continue at high intensity until Sunday, January 1, informed police

“On Friday night, we booked 57 people just in the West division of the city alone through surveillance and surprise checks

— Kuldeep Kumar R Jain,

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic), West Division

there were only 36 violations caught in our division. I want to take it as positive feedback and keep the situation stable for the next week since it is the new year. Part of our routine is to increase surveillance, but it is not just limited to that. We will be continuing the drive for the weekend after new year as well

to ensure road safety for people," said Sachin Ghorpade, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Traffic North Division.

As an alternative, traffic police have advised citizens to make active use of public transport while going out late at night during the new year celebrations.

"We are doing surprise checks across various junctions and main streets to ensure safety, especially during the night. We are encouraging the public to make use of BMTC buses and the metro instead of taking their personal vehicles for new year celebrations as that would be safer not just for themselves, but for other road users as well," said Kala Krishnaswamy, Traffic DCP, East Division.

Surveillance is likely to continue at high intensity until Sunday, January 1, informed police.

Smells like Christmas spirit

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TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

As the Christmas spirit takes over the city, restaurants and eateries are also preparing to join in on the festivities by serving their customers holiday special dishes.

Restaurants have prepared a wide array of special dishes that the city dwellers can indulge in while celebrating Christmas. From turkey to duck, these eateries are going all out to serve delicious food to city folks to make the festive season even more memorable.

A representative from Portland Grill and Café, said, "For Christmas specials, we will be serving a three-course meal as well as a two-course meal. Our Christmas special menu includes crispy roast duck, roast turkey, and grilled tenderloin chicken. These are the dishes that are quite in demand. For drinks, we will be serving mulled wine to the customers."

The Only Place, another restaurant, said, "For Christmas, our special menu includes roasted turkey, roasted chicken, as well as roasted beef. For desserts, we have the option of strawberry pie as well as apple pie, which are quite asked for."

Restaurants are already on the verge of being overcrowded and they are expecting a full house on Christmas. Rajkumar Shaw, Operations Manager at The Fox in The Field, said, "For Christmas, we are organising a brunch, for which we have special menus lined up for the people. The menu includes duck breast cut with spiced plum sauce and roast turkey with caramelised onion sauce. There will also be items like couscous cheese galauti, mutton laal maas, and prawn chai sweet and spicy sauce. For desserts, we have shahi tukda and thai dessert once shot. Along with these, there will also be mulled wine in place for those who want it." He added that they have been getting calls since morning for reservations. "We are expecting that by Christmas, the place will be full."

Some restaurants also have in place live music so that their customers can enjoy soothing music with their food. Anjali Rai, assistant restaurant manager, Lush, Renaissance Bangalore, said, "For Christmas, we have set up an alcoholic as well as a non-alcoholic brunch, and for the menu, we will have south Indian, Chinese, Asian, as well as continental cuisines. Apart from that, there will also be a live counter where people can have pasta, tandoor items, and there will be a chaat counter. There will also be live music. Until now, almost 80 per cent of our seats have been booked."

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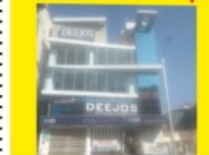


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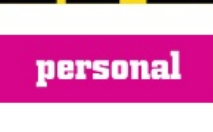
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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Purushotham K S/o Keshav Murthy S. No 212/B K. No 310/1, 2nd Cross Vss Badavana, Panathur Bangalore Karnataka 560087 In My Some of The Document my name & Date of Birth Wrongly Mentioned As Purushothama K & 07/08/2000 But My Correct and Actual Name & Date of Birth Is Purushotham K & 04/08/2000 For All Purposes.

I, Sumangala Shadaksharappa Yadiyapur, Residing at No.2484, 9th B Cross, Near BBMP Park, 13th Main, E Block, Sahakar Nagar Post, Bangalore-560092 have changed my name to SUMANGALA VEERAPPA GOURI vide affidavit dated 21.12.2022, Sworn before notary: L.Gopalakrishna, Bengaluru

I, Geeta Gouri, Residing at No.2484, 9th B Cross, Near BBMP Park, 13th Main, E Block, Sahakar Nagar Post, Bangalore-560092 have changed my name to GEETA VEERAPPA GOURI vide affidavit dated 21.12.2022, Sworn before notary: L.Gopalakrishna, Bengaluru

I, Muzummil Sharieff s/o Mahmood Shariff R/o #19/D, 4th Cross, Umar Bagh Lyt, JP nagar, Bengaluru 560078 have changed my name to MUZAMIL SHARIF affidavit Dt.24/12/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Shamala Devi Gopal Rao W/o Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy N R/o Kere Road Brahmanara Choultry Nagamangala Mandya -571432 have changed my name to Shyamaladevi Gopal Rao.

I, Mary Susheela Nirmala W/o Late. Fedrick Jacob Fernandez R/o 103, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross, St. Michael Church Rd Shanthi Nagar, B'lore-560027. have changed my name to Nirmala Fernandez for all purposes.

I, Deepak Neelam Bhudolia R/o #69, Officer model colony, T-Dasarahalli, Bengaluru 560057 have changed my name to NEELAM BHUDOLIA affidavit Dt.24/12/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Priya w/o Sripal Jain R/o Flat.1402, Tower-5, Salarpuria satta divinity, Nayandahalli, B'luru 560039 have changed my name to PRIYA JAIN affidavit Dt.24/12/2022 notary Ganesh Gowda M.V, B'luru

I, Manjula Devi W/O. S B Shivayogappa R/o No 129 Gf - 1 Supra Ascent Defence Layout Vidyanarayana Bangalore 560097 have changed my name to Manjula for all purposes.

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Know all about wetlands, at IISc

Institute to host students for discussion on conservation of fragile ecosystems

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) will be home to hundreds of school and college students from across Karnataka as they will gather on the campus to discuss various aspects of ecosystem and wetland conservation between December 28 and 30. Children from as many as 45 schools and 60 higher educational institutions will take part in the 13th biennial lake symposium that will focus on the conservation of wetlands and the role of the ecosystem in sustaining food and water supply.

"Students from various colleges and schools across Karnataka will be attending the event and will also make presentations on the last day of the symposium. This will ensure knowledge dissemination and capacity building," said Dr TV Ramachandra from Center for Ecological Sciences, IISc. "The idea is to sensitise the youth with environmental knowledge and issues, so they become more responsible and sensible about these issues," he added.

Medicinal plants growth, ecological pros and cons of online shopping, species of spiders found in various surroundings, plastic waste management, heavy metals and organic bioaccumulation in wetlands, aquatic ecology, vultures of wetlands, and conservation of wetlands are some of the topics that school children will highlight through their presentation.

Children have also undergone training through a plethora of workshops to participate in the symposium.

The symposium will also discuss research gaps and activities to be initiated by researchers to evolve appropriate



strategies towards the conservation of ecosystems in Western Ghats, assess the present status and conservation aspects of the ecosystem and will look at current initiatives of the conservation and management of ecosystems.

"The idea is to sensitise the youth on environment, so they become more responsible"

— TV Ramachandra, IISc

Experts will also deliberate on and develop strategies for sustainable management and conservation of aquatic ecosystems to ensure the sustainability of water, food and human livelihood.

"The three-day event will provide a unique opportunity to increase understanding of the role of ecosystems in sustaining the food and water with the challenges faced by these fragile ecosystems," explained Dr Ramachandra.

This is a biannual symposium that started way back in 1998 and includes deliberation between national and international experts. But the uniqueness is the participation of school and college students, he further added.

Boy bitten by snake dies due to long ambulance wait in Hassan

A five-year-old boy died due to delay in the arrival of an ambulance after he was bitten by a snake in Hassan, sources said on Saturday.

The deceased boy has been identified as Rohan, a resident of Doddakalluru village near Sakleshpur taluk.

The family members and the villagers have slammed the authorities for the late arrival of the ambulance causing a delay which resulted in the death.

According to police, Rohan was bitten by a snake on the premises of Anganwadi (government preschool).

His father rushed him to nearby Hetur government hospital on his bike, where the doctors referred him to Sak-

leshpur town hospital and asked him to wait for the ambulance.

While waiting for the ambulance, the boy had lost consciousness. The parents had arranged a car and attempted to transport the boy to taluk hospital in Sakleshpur.

The ambulance had come in the midway and the boy was shifted to the vehicle from the car. After reaching Sakleshpur taluk hospital, the parents were asked to take the boy to the district hospital in Hassan.

In spite of the treatment, the boy succumbed at the hospital. Irate villagers blamed the non-availability of ambulance service for the death. An investigation into the case is on.

— IANS

KPSC is ready with mock online test; are you set?

Exam is being conducted to test the new model; only serious candidates need apply

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) will be starting a computer-based recruitment test (CBRT) for the first time, the commission announced recently.

The commission has also started a mock test for the candidates who are willing to test the new model. The mock CBRT test is set to be conducted on Saturday, January 7, 2023. The applications for the mock test started on Friday, December 23 and the interested candidates can apply till December 31, the commission announced through a notice on their website.

The candidates will be required to pay Rs. 100 as application fee in order to pay for the mock test. As per the exam pattern, the paper will have 100 questions of 2 marks each and the paper will be made available in both English and Kannada medium for the aspirants.

"As the commission wants to conduct the competitive exam through online mode in the near future, the said CBRT mock examination is being conducted on a trial basis so that the candidates can have an experience of the process of virtual examinations. This is a serious examination and only interested candidates are advised to apply for it. An application fee of Rs. 100 has been fixed



File photo of a Karnataka Public Service Commission competitive exam in progress

“Delay in the results has been a big headache for the aspirants so far and we are glad that steps are being taken in order to ensure that does not happen”

—Bhavya Narasimhamurthy, President, KSCEAA

for each candidate in order to limit submissions. Fee exemption will not be given to any candidates applying for the mock tests,” the official notice read.

Job aspirants in the state have been demanding for more transparency in the whole recruitment process for Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) posts. The students say that this new move will benefit them as there is much less chance of computer-based examinations getting scammed.

“This was one of our major demands and we are happy that it is finally being implemented. It will be very helpful for the aspirants as the tampering cases in the recruitment process will

come down and it will also help the commission to announce the results faster... Delay in the results has been a big headache for the aspirants so far and we are glad that steps are being taken in order to ensure that does not happen,” said Bhavya

Narasimhamurthy, President, Karnataka State Competitive Examination Aspirants Association (KSCEAA).

In addition to the CBRT exams, the aspirants are also demanding biometric based attendance for the recruitment tests to maintain transparency and discipline, Narasimhamurthy added. The commission announced that the mock exam is only for trial and the marks scored will not be considered for recruitment process.

Damages can't erase accident trauma: SC

While no amount of money or other material compensation can erase the trauma and suffering that a victim undergoes after a serious accident, monetary compensation assures restitution, the Supreme Court has said.

A bench of justices Krishna Murari and S Ravindra Bhat said taking the type of disability into concern, just compensation should be awarded to the person aggrieved.

“Whilst no amount of money or other material compensation can erase the trauma, pain and suffering that a victim undergoes after a serious accident, (or replace the loss of a loved one), monetary compensation is the manner known to law, whereby society assures some measure of restitution to those who survive, and the victims who have to face their lives,” the

bench said.

The observation from the top court came while awarding a compensation of Rs 9.30 lakh to a woman labour who was injured during construction of government hospital at Bidar in Karnataka.

On July 22, 2015, the appellant fell down from second floor to ground floor when the centering plate collapsed on her head.

The top court noted that the doctors who treated the appellant have held that she sustained fracture of spinal bone and compound fracture on various parts of the body.

The apex court said ideally, the compensation should be provided to the employees against the hazards of employment to which an employee is exposed. “This also includes any occupational disease or industrial accident,” the bench said.

—PTI



INIMAX AT

PVR CINEMAS (Forum Mall, Koramangala, 6:30, 10:30 a.m., 2:30, 6:30, 10:30 p.m. | Vega City, 10:00 a.m., 2:00, 6:00, 10:00 p.m. | VR Mall, 6:30, 10:30 a.m., 2:30, 6:30, 10:30 p.m.) | INOX CINEMAS (Mantri Square Mall, 11:00 a.m., 2:50, 6:40, 10:30 p.m. | Galleria Mall, Yelahanka, 7:10, 11:00, 2:50, 6:40, 10:30 p.m.) | CINEPOLIS (Shantiniketan, 10:45 a.m., 2:40, 6:35, 10:30 p.m.)

IN 4DX AT

PVR CINEMAS (Phoenix Marketcity Mall, 6:30, 10:15 a.m., 2:10, 6:05, 10:00 p.m. | Forum Mall, Koramangala, 10:00 a.m., 2:00, 6:00, 10:00 p.m. | Vega City, 6:40, 10:35 a.m., 2:30, 6:25, 10:20 p.m. | Orion Mall, 6:30, 10:15 a.m., 2:10, 6:05, 10:00 p.m.) | CINEPOLIS (Shantiniketan, 10:00 a.m., 1:55, 5:50, 9:50 p.m.)

IN ENGLISH VERSION AT

PVR CINEMAS (Phoenix Marketcity | Forum Mall | Orion Mall | Orion Uptown Mall | MSR Regalia Mall | Spirit Mall | VR Mall | Vaishnavi Sapphire Mall | Superplex Vegacity Mall | GT Mall, Magadi Road | Aura Cinema | Director Cuts Rex) | MIRAJ CINEMAS (Magadi Road) | INOX CINEMAS (Garuda Mall | Swagath Mall | Mantri Mall | RMZ, Yelahanka | Central Mall | Brookfield Mall | Lido | Forum Value Mall | Garuda, Yelahanka | SBR Horizon) | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS (Shantiniketan | Royal Meenakshi Mall | ETA Mall | Orion East Mall | Sigma Mall | SJR Spectrum Mall) | GOPALAN (Innovation Mall | Arch Mall | Legacy Mall | Grand Mall | Signature Mall) | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX (Marathahalli) | ROCKLINE CINEMAS (Jalahalli) | KINO CINEMAS | SWAGATH SHANKAR (M.G. Road) | THIRUMALA (Agara) | LAKSHMI (Tavarekere) | VICTORY CINEMAS (Magadi Road) | MANASA (Konankunte) | BRUNDA THEATRE (Hongasandra) | SRI LAKSHMI CHITRAMANDIRA (Ram Murthy Nagar) | ANJAN THEATRE (Magadi Road) | HMT (Jalahalli) | VAIBHAV (Sanjay Nagar) | V CINEMA (Garudacharapalya) | BALAJI (Chikkalasandra) | MAHADESHWARA (Banashankari) | MUKUNDA THEATRE (Banashankari Main Road) | CAUVERY (Sankey's Road) | GURU SHREE (Mandya) | VINAYAKA THEATRE (Harinagar) | PRITHVI THEATRE (Hassan) | DRC CINEMAS (Mysore) | INOX CINEMAS (Satyam, Mysore | Centro, Mysore) | PVR CINEMAS (Forum Mall, Mysore) | Garuda Mall, Mysore) | VISION CINEMAS (Mysore) | CINEPOLIS (City Centre Mall, Mangalore) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Mangalore) | PVR CINEMAS (Fiza Mall, Mangalore) | SREELEKHA THEATRE (Chikmagalur) | COORG (Kushalnagar) | INOX CINEMAS (S Mall, Tumkur) | CINE GALAXY (Surathkal) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Padubidri) | INOX (Manipal) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Manipal) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Shivamogga) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Kundapura) | TRINETRA (Davangere) | RADHIKA (Bellary) | MEERAM (Hospet) & Other Cinemas.

IN HINDI VERSION AT

CINEPOLIS CINEMAS (Shantiniketan | Royal Meenakshi Mall | ETA Mall | Orion East Mall | Sigma Mall | SJR Spectrum Mall) | VAIBHAV (Sanjay Nagar) | VINAYAKA THEATRE (DJ Halli).

IN KANNADA VERSION AT

VICTORY CINEMAS (Magadi Road) | MUKTA A2 (Uttarahalli) | VENKATESHWARA (Kengiri) | VEERESH THEATRE (Magadi Road) | VINAYAKA THEATRE (Harinagar) | VISION CINEMAS (Mysore) | JAI BHARATH (Tumkur) | BHARATH (Shivamogga) | VEERABHADRESHWARA (Shivamogga) | BHARATH CINEMAS (Kundapura) | MEERAM (Hospet) | PRITHVI THEATRE (Hassan) | GURU SHREE (Mandya).

IN TELUGU VERSION AT

INOX CINEMAS (RMZ, Yelahanka) | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX (Marathahalli) | KINO CINEMAS | VINAYAKA (Vartur) | TULSI (Marathahalli) | VENKATESHWARA (Konappana Agrahara) | SRI VINAYAKA CHITRAMANDIRA (Marathahalli) | VAIBHAV (Doddaballapur) | SRI CHANDRASHEKHAR CHITRAMANDIRA (Anekal) | GOWRISHANKAR CHITRA MANDIRA (Vijayapura) | RADHIKA (Bellary) | SHARDA THEATRE (Kolar) | NATRAJ (Bellary).

IN TAMIL VERSION AT

SWAGATH POORNIMA THEATRE (JC Road) | VIJAYA CHITRA MANDIR (Byatarayanapura) | AMRUT THEATRE (Lingajapuram) | PUSHPANJALI (B N Pura) | ARUNA (Srirampuram).

FOR ANY CHANGES OR CANCELLATION IN SHOW TIMINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE THEATRE

farnaz

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VEERABHADRESHWARA KAMALANAGAR

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MAHADESHWARA KADIRENAHALI

VINAYAKA HARINAGAR

RAJAMURALI KODIGEHALLI

VENKATESHWARA GOLLARAHATTI

LAKSHMI GOTTIGERE

SRINIVASA GOWDANAPALYA

THULASI MARATHALLI

BHARATHI PEENYA

MARUTHI RAJAGOPALNAGAR

MOHAN SUNKADAKATTE

BALAJI TAVAREKERE

CHANDRODAYA VIDYAPETTA CIRCLE

V CINEMAS GARUDACHARAPALYA

VENKATESHWARA K.R.PURAM

ULLAS YESHWANTHUR

MANASA KONANKUNTE

BRUNDA HONGASANDRA

TIRUMALA AGARA

PRAKASH YELAHANKA

PRUTHVI NAGAWARA

VAINIDHI SINGAPURA

VIJAYALAKSHMI GARUDACHARAPALYA

VAJRESHWARI ULLALA

BALAJI DOMMASANDRA

KAMAKYA KATTIGUPPE

PVR

REX | ORION | GT FORUM | AURA VAISHNAVI REGALIA MARKETCITY VR | UPTOWN VEGACITY SPIRIT | ARENA INOX

MANTRI CENTRAL SWAGATH GARUDA | RMZ YELAHANKA FORUM SBR HORIZON

Cinepolis

ETA | SJR MEENAKSHI FUN | ORION EAST SHANTINIKETAN

ARCH | GRAND INNOVATION LEGACY SIGNATURE

ROCKLINE JALAHALLI

KINO CINEMAS SEEGEHALI

MARATHALLI

MIRAJ SUNKADAKATTE

MUKTA A2 UTHARAHALLI

STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

RED-EYED CUCKOO

Greater coucal visits city gardens

The picture was clicked by BM reader **T Prakash**



If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru-Mysuru highway: Smarter moves



In three months, at least 65 accidents have taken place on the expressway

For road surveillance, NHAI decides to use AI on highway, urges Centre to approve camera for every 500 metres

The 'half completed' Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway has eased the traffic congestion to an extent. However, it has also created challenges for authorities as accidents on the highway have increased. Now, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has decided to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) for road surveillance. According to Sridhar, NHAI project director, AI cameras will be helpful in curbing accidents as well as over speeding.

"We are planning to install AI enabled cameras for every 500 metre of road stretch. We have written to the centre seeking permission for the same under the intelligent transport system," he said. If the centre approves the proposal, then a command centre would be set up either at Bengaluru or Mysuru to keep a tab on the camera footage.

Police say that in the last three months since the highway has been opened in phases, there have been at least 65 accidents and 22 have lost their lives. Hence, there is a need not only to prevent accidents but ensure lane discipline as well. Authorities feel that if there are cameras for every 500 metres, then they can monitor the entire 118 km stretch of the

“There are plans to control speeding. We are working to fit speed radars

— an official

expressway. In case of any accident or emergency, then operators in the control room can immediately alert the ambulance and jurisdictional police. "There are plans to control speeding. We are working on a mechanism of fitting speed radars so that over-speeding is automatically detected and a traffic challan is raised in the violator's name," said an official.

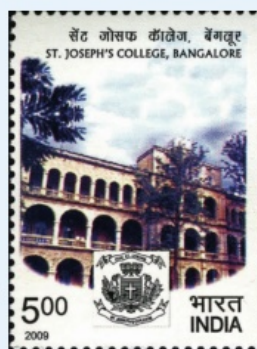
Currently, 100 kmph has been fixed as the speed limit on the highway. However, at certain stretches, the speed limit has been fixed at 80 kmph. The NHAI has fixed boards on the medians giving indication of the maximum permissible speed limit.

"It is common to see the speed limits. But, it is better to drive below 100 kmph as there is a need to prevent road accidents. There are many loopholes as we find many vehicles coming in the opposite direction and this can be a hindrance to the vehicles zooming on the highway," said Sudesh S, a commuter.

— **Prakash VL**

DID YOU KNOW?

St Joseph's College is one of the oldest degree colleges in Bengaluru. The college was established in 1882 and is run by the Karnataka Province of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). The 140-year-old institution was started by the Foreign Missions Society of Paris. After the demolition of its first building on Residency Road, the age-old college shifted to its Lalbagh Road campus. Currently, the building stands tall at Langford Road. After the St. Joseph's University Bill was passed in February, 2021, the college recently upgraded to a university. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has upgraded a telescope on the college's terrace, which is known as the dome of the observatory. Some of the notable alumni from the college are- former chief election commissioner TS Krishnamurthy, Bollywood actor Dino Morea, scientist Raja Ramanna, historian Janaki Nair, spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and others. India Post also issued a commemorative postage stamp on the college in 2009.



GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

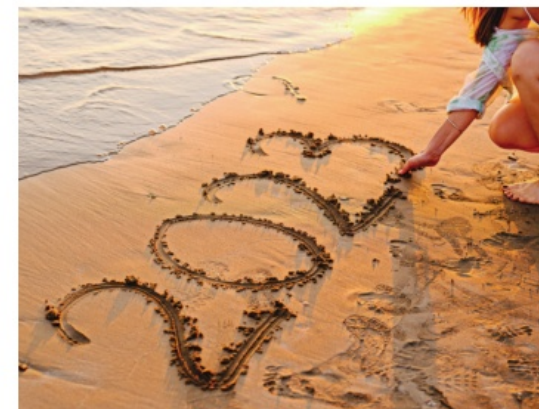
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Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

What is one change you would like to see in your life in 2023?



Debalina Mazumdar,
BM Reader

In 2023 I want to stop procrastinating on my goals and I would like to start working on ideas. Another thing that I want to learn is decision making and being practical.



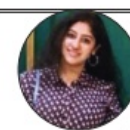
Punit Jain, BM Reader

Would love to take more holidays, if international travel is made easier. Visa permits are a real hindrance. Smoother travel is possible if our foreign offices negotiate and coordinate better.



Julia J, BM Reader

The one big change that I would like in 2023 is to change my sleeping habits. I want to reduce the usage of phone, social media and use these at restricted time periods.



Ashwini F, BM Reader

Being a health care practitioner I wish to work out a lot more, spend more time by heading outside to more social events in the city, work towards providing better health care services and access to citizens, and look after the community.



Charvi LN, BM Reader

I would like to change the way I feel about myself. In 2023 I want to face my insecurities.



DK Soni, BM Reader

As an assistant professor, I would like to see changes in my students in terms of discipline, greater focus on automation and mechatronics engineering.

SPEAK TO US

What is your vision for Bengaluru 2023?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

New Year Eve guidelines could be out on Monday

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

This year, there has been a renewed interest in celebrating new year eve as most hotels are booked and parties have been planned at many places. However, the ball is in the state government's court with regard to what kind of guidelines will be out. A crucial meeting was scheduled for Saturday, which has now been deferred till Monday.

Revenue Minister R Ashoka, who is also vice-chairman of the Disaster Management Authority, said, "We intended to meet on Saturday."

However, as it was a fourth Saturday, we have kept the same on Monday. We need to take a call on what guidelines need to be issued for the new year. We are getting mixed responses from people.

One section is asking why we are making decisions in haste as the situation is well under control here. However, another section is saying that precautions should be taken at the earliest."

Ashoka said that there needs to be two separate guidelines: one for Bengaluru, and another for the rest of the state. "As far as I know, there won't be any issue for new year revelry at homes. However, we need to discuss the issue with experts on



Traffic police instruct commuters to wear masks, in the city on Saturday

allowing NYE celebrations in public," he said.

Meanwhile, the Hotels Association has urged the state government not to take hasty decisions like the previ-

ous years as they are ready to follow guidelines and most of the programmes are already booked. Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said, "We are encouraging everyone to wear masks. In fact, we are keeping masks at the Belagavi session for MLAs, MLCs, and staff members."

The BBMP has deployed marshals who are now travelling across main roads with a public address system asking people to wear masks and follow physical distancing.

No need to panic

Jayadeva Institute of Cardiology Director Dr CN Manjunath said, "As of now, there is no need to panic yet. We need to follow precautions. People

with comorbidities need to be extra careful. Many people who have symptoms are not coming forward to take covid tests. I would recommend that people should take tests if they are symptomatic. As far as sewage surveillance reports, there is nothing to worry yet."

A statement from Apollo Hospital said, "The news of covid in China is leading to many rumours not based on scientific facts about the impact on India and the world, but there is absolutely no need to panic. India has a high level of hybrid immunity. However, it is always advisable to take precautions, especially for vulnerable groups. One should also take the booster dose."

Covid fears create sudden boost for booster dose

As many as 1,243 precautionary jabs administered on Friday

| Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

As Covid cases spike across the globe once again, creating a scare of yet another wave, Bengaluru recorded a surge in the number of booster doses administered on Friday. As many as 1,243 doses were administered on the day, taking the total tally of precautionary doses to 13.33 lakh.

The last time the number of takers for the precautionary dose crossed the one thousand mark was over two months ago. According to the officials from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) health department, this surge in number is being recorded across all BBMP zones.

"In the last two days, the number of takers for the precautionary dose has gone up considerably. We have received similar responses across all the zones in the city. This can be due to media reports on the surge in Covid cases in other parts of the world," said Dr AS Balasundar, chief health officer, Health Department, BBMP.

As per the official statistics, so far, around 97,000 healthcare workers, 1.4 lakh frontline workers, 3.92 lakh senior citizens, and 7.03 lakh adults in the age group of 18 to 59 in the city have taken the booster dose.

However, this number is still abysmal if looked at the total adult population of the city. While the adult population of Bengaluru is 91.7 lakh, only about 14.5 per cent of the individuals eligible for the booster dose have taken the jab.

As per the officials, looking at the surge in the number of takers, the challenge is to make the booster dose



Those who have received at least one jab of precautionary dose will be shielded till January or February end. Hopefully, government will soon come up with guidelines on second dose of booster

— Dr Chinnadurai R, Aster RV Hospital

available to the public. While BBMP has sufficient Covaxin booster doses, Covishield and Corbevax doses are in short supply.

"There is only a small number of vials of these two vaccines left with us. We have written to the government regarding the shortage. The fresh stock of both vaccines should reach us by Monday (December 26). People should voluntarily come and take the precautionary dose. The variant is new, and we are not aware of how it will behave. The booster dose will surely help in decreasing the severity of the infection. Everyone eligible for the vaccine should take

the dose," added Dr Balasundar.

Healthcare experts say since the immunity from booster doses lasts for about eight months, those who have not taken even a single booster dose must come forward and get themselves vaccinated.

"Those who have taken at least one dose of the precautionary dose will be shielded till January or February end. Hopefully, the government will soon come up with guidelines on the second dose of the booster. For the time being, those who have not taken even a single dose should come forward," said Dr Chinnadurai R, Aster RV Hospital.

Sanitisers selling like hotcakes

| Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With the fear of covid looming over people, residents of the city have started taking precautions from their end by purchasing face masks and sanitizers in bulk. Medical stores in the city have also started stocking up on these items.

The store owners say that masks and sanitizers are selling out fast as a lot of people are buying them out of panic. Raghav K, manager of the Medplus medical store in Kirtloskar Layout, said, "With the recent news about covid cases, people have started buying masks and sanitizers. Each person is buying at least 2 entire packets of masks. From morning, I have sold almost 25-30 packets. Even sanitizers are selling fast."

People managing medical stores say that they have to keep restocking these items as the demand for them has become very high.

Manjunath, running Balaji medicals in Dasarahalli, said, "In the last few months, the covid cases had reduced and there was no demand for masks, so we did not keep much stock. However, the demand has suddenly increased and we have

placed an order for masks and sanitizers because they are being sold rapidly. The stock that we had got over in two days. Even N95 masks are being sold out fast."

Pavan Pharma, a medical store near Rajajinagar, is seeing an increase in the demand for sanitizers. The store manager said, "Everyone wants to buy sanitizers in bulk so that they do not run out. I have placed new orders for sanitizers and masks so that my store does not end up running out of them. Some are also buying Dolo medicine in bulk."

Residents of the city said that after the government advised them to mask up in crowded places, they have stocked up on the same as they do not want to take any chances.

Bhavana Sharma, a resident of Jayanagar, said, "I have bought two full packets of masks and sanitizers because I do not want to take any risks. I have kids as well as aged people living at home, and we need to be prepared."

Vinay Shah, residing in Vijaynagar, said, "I do not want to wait for another lockdown to purchase masks and sanitizers as by then it will be too late. Covid is serious and people should not take it lightly. Hence, I am preparing myself for any kind of emergency that might take place."



BBMP marshals were out in full numbers at city's markets to announce covid appropriate behaviour to be followed

'RSS/BJP spreads fear, converts it into hatred'

Rahul Gandhi addresses huge gathering as yatra enters Delhi

#NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday accused the RSS/BJP of spreading fear in the country and said they convert this fear into hatred but the Congress will not allow that to happen.

Addressing a gathering at the Delhi border as the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Gandhi entered Delhi, he said, "They spread hatred, we spread love and embrace all Indians".

"There is Hindustan and 'Mohabbat' (love) in this Bharat Jodo yatra, which does not see any caste, creed, religion, rich or poor and all embrace each other," he told a large gathering here.

"RSS/BJP's all policies are to spread fear. They want that everyone should have fear in them and they convert this 'dar' into 'nafrat' (fear into hatred). If there is no 'dar', it will not be converted into 'nafrat'. We say 'daro mat'. We spread Mohabbat. We embrace all Indians," he said.

Gandhi alleged that the BJP/RSS has done nothing but spread hatred and the yatra aims to show a different way to India of uniting people through love.

"As I had said a few days ago that in this market of hatred, we will open up a shop to spread love in society, every Indian should open a small shop to spread love. You would have



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses the supporters during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, near Red Fort in New Delhi, Saturday

seen there is no hatred in this yatra," he also said, alleging that only a handful of people are spreading this hatred but the majority of Indians talk of uniting people.

"I have walked from Kanyakumari and I can say there is only love and no hatred across the country, it is the media which is showing it...," he said.

The former Congress chief said this yatra is against unemployment, price rise, fear and hatred and we will not allow anyone to break India and

will keep fighting.

He said, he is not tired even after walking 3,000 km and it is because "you have given your love and energy and I want to thank everyone. India has helped us and we will never forget that."

Gandhi was earlier accorded a warm welcome at the Badarpur border in Delhi with local party workers joining the yatra in large numbers, as the yatra left Haryana and entered the national capital.

-PTI

Loan fraud: CBI seeks 3-day custody of Kochhars from court

#NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday produced former ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar and her husband Deepak Kochhar before a special court in Mumbai, seeking a three-day custody for the couple.

The Kochhars were arrested on Friday by the CBI in connection with a loan fraud case involving bank officials and the Videocon Group.

The CBI has alleged that Chanda Kochhar had hatched a criminal conspiracy and released loans to six different companies.

The loan amount was several crore rupees and she had pressurized other banks to pass their loans.

After receiving a complaint, a case of fraud was filed by the CBI with the Mumbai branch in January 2019.

The probe agency has also moved an application to invoke IPC 409 against Chanda Kochhar.

According to a CBI official, the arrests were made based on the January 2019 filed against Chanda Kochhar, her husband and Venugopal Dhoot of Videocon Group.

Nupower Renewables, Supreme Energy, Videocon International Electronics Ltd and Videocon Industries Limited were also made as an accused in the FIR.

Dhoot allegedly invested crores of rupees in Nupower months after



Former ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar and her husband Deepak Kochhar

CBI has alleged Chanda Kochhar had hatched a criminal conspiracy and released loans to six different companies

the Videocon Group got several hundred crore as loan from ICICI Bank in 2012

"We have also conducted search operations at their premises and have recovered a few documents connected to the case," the official said. Further details are awaited.

-IANS

RT-PCR for returnees of some nations

#NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Saturday said RT-PCR test for the detection of covid-19 would be made mandatory for international passengers arriving from China, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong and Thailand.

Any passenger from these countries found symptomatic or testing positive for coronavirus would be quarantined, Mandaviya said.

He also said filling up of the 'Air Suvidha' form to declare the health status will be made mandatory for passengers coming from these countries. With China and other countries witnessing a surge in Covid cases, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday cautioned against complacency, called for a strict vigil and directed that the ongoing surveillance measures be strengthened.

The Union health ministry has already asked the civil aviation ministry to ensure random post-arrival Covid testing at airports of 2 per cent of the passengers arriving in India in each international flight from Saturday to minimise the risk of ingress of any new variant of the coronavirus in the country.

-PTI

Nine bills passed by Parliament in winter session

#NEW DELHI

Nine bills were passed by the two Houses of Parliament in the winter session that concluded on Friday.

In the 13 sittings held since the session began on December 7, nine bills were introduced in Lok Sabha. While Lok Sabha passed seven bills, nine were passed by Rajya Sabha.

Addressing a press conference here, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said first Batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants for 2022-23 and Demands for Excess

Grant for 2019-20 were discussed and voted in full and the related Appropriation Bills were introduced, discussed and passed by Lok Sabha on December 14 after a debate of about 11 hours. Rajya Sabha returned these Bills on December 21 after a debate of about 9 hours.

The major Bills passed by both Houses during the Session include The Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2022, The Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill,

Session cut by a week as members demand to leave for their constituencies for Xmas and year end celebrations

2022, The New Delhi Arbitration Centre (Amendment) Bill, 2022, The Constitution (Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Order

(Second Amendment) Bill, 2022, The Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill, 2022, The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Second Amendment) Bill, 2022 and The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Fourth Amendment) Bill, 2022.

The winter session was curtailed by a week following demand and sentiments of members to leave for their constituencies for Christmas and year end celebrations. The two Houses were adjourned sine die on Friday.

-ANI

PAN not linked with Aadhaar to be inoperative

#NEW DELHI

The Income Tax department Saturday issued an advisory that those permanent account numbers (PAN) which are not linked with Aadhaar by the end of March next year will be rendered "inoperative".

"What is mandatory, is necessary. Don't delay, link it today!" the department said in a public advisory.

"As per Income-tax Act, 1961, it is mandatory for all PAN holders, who do not fall under the exempt category, to link their PAN with Aadhaar before 31.3.2023. From 1.04.2023, the unlinked PAN shall become inoperative," it said.



File photo of people queuing up for Aadhaar cards in Bengaluru

The 'exempt category', according to a notification issued by the Union

Finance Ministry in May 2017, are those individuals residing in the states of Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Meghalaya; a non-resident as per the Income-tax Act, 1961; of the age of 80 years or more at any time during the previous year and a person not a citizen of India.

A circular issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) on March 30 said once a PAN becomes inoperative, an individual shall be liable to all the consequences under the I-T Act and will have to suffer a number of implications.

The person shall not be able to file I-T return using the inoperative PAN;

pending returns will not be processed; pending refunds cannot be issued to inoperative PANs; pending proceedings as in the case of defective returns cannot be completed once the PAN is inoperative and tax will be required to be deducted at a higher rate.

"In addition to the above, the taxpayer might face difficulty at various other fora like banks and other financial portals as PAN is one of the important KYC (know your customer) criterion for all kinds of financial transaction," the circular said.

The CBDT frames policy for the Income Tax department.

-PTI



FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!

These recipes are traditional favourites and no celebration can be complete without them



GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Classic Christmas recipe

INGREDIENTS

Dough

- Flour – 3 cups; ● Ginger powder – 2tsp;
- Cinnamon powder – 2tsp; ● Salt – ½ tsp
- Butter – 6 tbsp; ● Sugar brown – 1 tbsp
- Eggs – 1 ● Maple syrup – ½ cup

Prep Time:

2 hrs

Cooking Time:

15 mins

Serves

15

Royal icing

- Egg whites – 2
- Powdered sugar – 3 cups
- Lemon juice – 1 tsp

METHOD

Dough

● Beat butter, sugar, and eggs. Add maple syrup and mix well. Add flour, spices, salt and knead. Divide into 2 portions, wrap in plastic, and refrigerate. After 2 hours, roll into thin ½ cm sheets, cut it out as per the house design and bake for 20 minutes.

Royal icing

- the egg whites and powdered sugar till the batter becomes thick and fluffy. Add lemon juice.
- Assemble the house using royal icing as a mortar and decorate with gems, sugar sprinkles and marshmallow.

STOLLEN BREAD

Traditional Christmas Deutsche bread

INGREDIENTS

- Flour – 750 g
- Butter – 275 g
- Eggs – 3
- Sugar – 75 g
- Salt – 15 g
- Water – 300 ml
- Yeast – 15 g
- Cranberries – 300 g
- Raisins – 300 g
- Rum – 45 ml
- Cinnamon – 5 g
- Butter – 75 g
- Marzipan – 225 g
- Powder sugar for dusting
- Extra butter for brushing

Prep Time:

15 minutes (soak time 24 hours)

Cooking Time:

90 mins

Serves

3

METHOD

● Soak dry fruit and cinnamon in rum a day. In a bowl beat sugar and butter. Add eggs one at a time and beat. Make a dough of the flour adding salt and yeast mixed in lukewarm water. Knead the soaked dry fruits, sugar butter and egg mixture into the dough and keep aside for 20 minutes. Divide the dough and marzipan into 3 portions. Flatten the dough into 8" ovals. Elongate marzipan into 7" rolls, place it in the dough and fold lengthwise, pressing the top to seal. After 30 minutes, bake at 180 C degrees for 20 minutes, brush with melted butter and dust with powdered sugar after 5 minutes.



RICH PLUM CAKE

Traditional Yuletide Rich Plum Cake

INGREDIENTS

- Almond – 20g
- Cashews – 20g
- Golden raisin – 20g
- Black raisin – 20g
- Prunes – 40g
- Tutti frutti – 40g
- Cherry – 20g
- Orange peel – 15g
- Rum: 100 ml
- Wine – 10 ml
- Whisky – 10 ml

Powders

- Cardamom – 10g
- Cinnamon – 8g
- Ginger – 5g
- Nutmeg – 5g
- Clove – 3g
- Star anise – 5g

Others

- Butter – 120g
- Sugar – 100g
- Eggs – 2
- Flour – 120g
- Egg whites – 2
- Powder sugar – 3 cups
- Lemon juice – 1 tsp
- Fondant – 100g
- Food colouring as desired

METHOD

● Dice fruits and nuts. Soak in liquor, add powdered spices and mix well and keep aside for 6 hours.

● Whip butter and sugar in a bowl until smooth. Add eggs one at a time and beat till fluffy. Add flour, soaked fruits and mix well. Add mixture to an 8" tray. Bake in pre-heated oven at 180 C for 20 minutes.

● Whip egg whites and powdered sugar till the batter becomes fluffy. Add lemon juice. Layer on the cake and let it dry. Divide the fondant into 3 parts, add colouring and knead. Roll into thin sheets and cut out Christmas decorations and place on the cake.

#AskTheS'EXPERT

1 During pull out method, condom got stuck in vagina and was removed immediately. Is there any chance of getting pregnant?

Size matters...when it comes to condoms. Condoms can come off during sex if: they aren't the right size, not worn properly or due to wetness. For the future, try to experiment with different sizes till you find a perfect fit. Pregnancy occurs if the sperm & ova meet. The condom being inside the vagina- could have transferred sperm into it. We have no information about the menstrual cycle of your partner or whether the condom even contained any fluids from the penis. As a precaution we suggest you wait till your partner's next period- in case of a missed period, start by taking an at-home pregnancy test. In case it is positive- please consult your doctor for a lab test for pregnancy. In case the test is negative- they will get their period soon, in absence of a period- you still must see a doctor to be sure. Also in such a case- one must ensure that the condom & any pieces (if broken) are pulled out of the vagina entirely. If you can't remove the condom completely, or you're not sure it's all out, visit a health clinic right away.

2 My penis smells bad .. is that a problem? I'm sexually not active.

Our genitals, including the penis have a distinct odour, that is normal. Regularly keeping the genitals clean brings the odour to a minimum. You can do this by washing the penis and under the foreskin (if uncircumcised) at least once a day with a gentle cleanser (avoid the use of scented products and use cleansers only if advised by the doctor) and lukewarm water. However, if you tend to notice this odour to be unusual and/or accompanied by rashes, cuts, warts etc. or excess discharge, or irritation in the area, please see with a doctor as it could be an indicator of an underlying skin or urinary tract infection- both possible even if you aren't sexually active.

27.21%

Folks falsely believe pulling out prevents pregnancy.

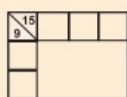


Ask anonymously or read more ask.allohealth.care

$$[\sqrt[3]{2-1} + (\frac{1}{2})^2 \times \frac{1}{2}]^{\frac{1}{2}} = ?$$

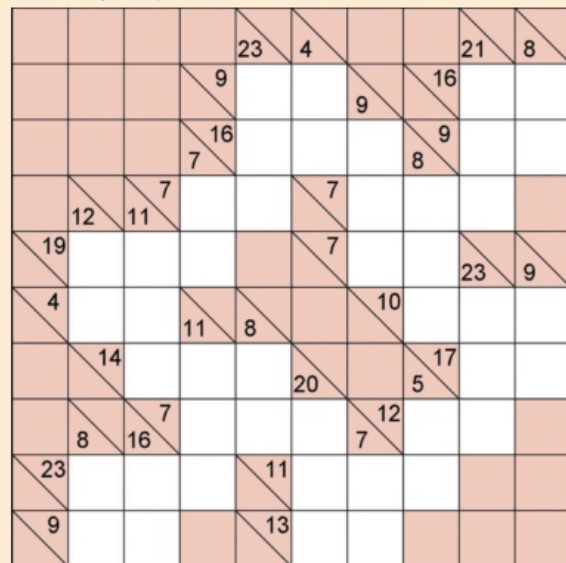
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

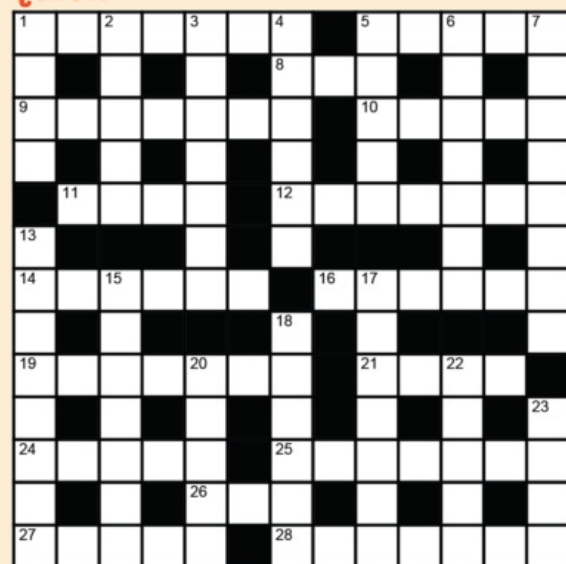


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Fine-tunes (7)
- 5 Strong and muscular (5)
- 8 61 in Roman numerals (3)
- 9 Opponent of technology (7)
- 10 Five Star ____ : Taj Intercontinental, for one? (5)
- 11 Zenith (4)
- 12 Make ideal, polish or refine to a very great degree (7)
- 14 Chaperone (6)
- 16 Required or needed (6)
- 19 Hospital on Airport road (7)
- 21 A footfall (4)
- 24 Habituate, get used to (5)
- 25 Checked cotton cloth (7)
- 26 Japanese honorific (3)
- 27 Stalks (5)
- 28 Italian port (7)

DOWN

- 1 Boring tools (4)
- 2 Arbiter (5)
- 3 Adhesive label (7)
- 4 ____ like a log : enjoys a very deep slumber, in a way? (6)
- 5 Patna locale (5)
- 6 Ask earnestly (7)
- 7 Christmas season (8)
- 13 Perfectly consistent and coherent (8)
- 15 Eat, devour or digest (7)
- 17 2019-20 FA Cup Champions (7)
- 18 Affiliates with (6)
- 20 Keep pushing (5)
- 22 Anaesthetic (5)
- 23 Ancient church desk (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: E EQUALS C
D EUHVHE HZ D FDY PSN
CYNPZ VSB PDT RMV EDY'V
WUHAB VSB EDU.



Linemaro

You are the girl of my dreams



Mindchow

The truth will set you free, but first it will piss you off



Joke of the day

My grandfather is a bit hard of hearing so he does lip reading. I don't mind the lip reading but he uses a yellow highlighter

Loop

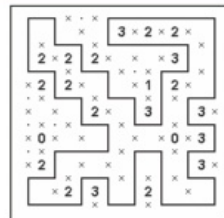
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

How to begin:

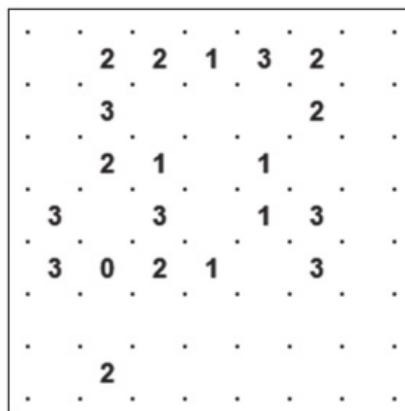
Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

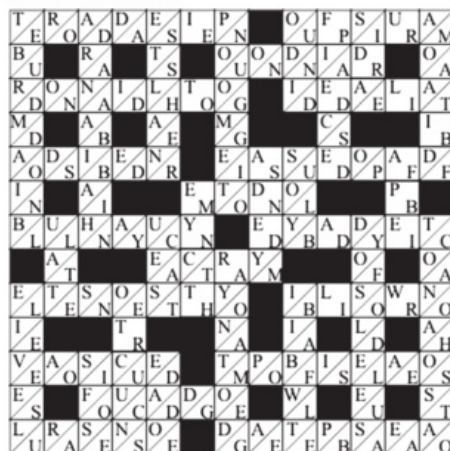


(Fig A)

(Fig B)
Not Allowed



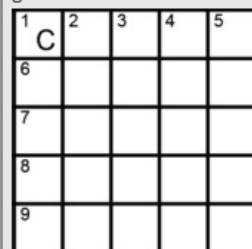
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

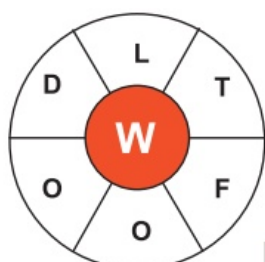
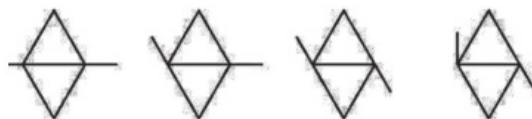
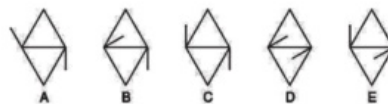
- 1 Cates; 6 We red;
- 7 Cig in; 8 Segni;
- 9 Gaped

DOWN

- 1 Scrip; 2 Ace l a;
- 3 Wings; 4 Genet;
- 5 Ed deg

Mensapuzzle

What comes next?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

3 4 5 7 = 5

Medium

1 8 8 8 = 8

Hard

3 4 8 3 = 2

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Rock is smaller. 2. Fence rail is shorter. 3. Roof is smaller. 4. Branch is missing. 5. Sleeve is shorter. 6. Leaves are lower.

Find a rhyme for each word below so you end up with a familiar three-word phrase in the form "_____, and _____. Example: Clue = "Cook, Wine, Drinker". Answer = "Hook, Line, and Sinker"

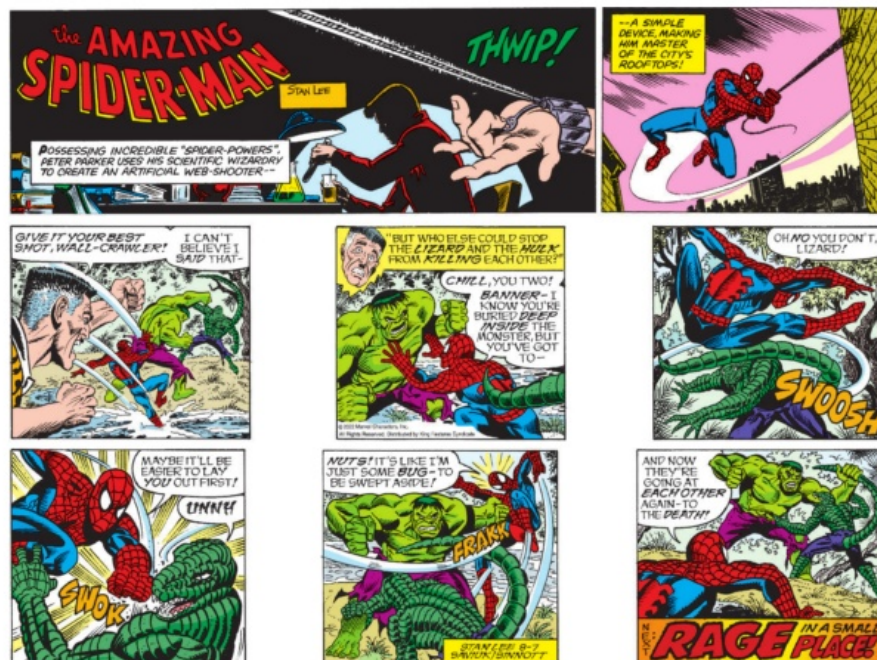
Riddler

1. Bomb, Click, Scary
2. Pup, Cup, Convey
3. Smell, Took, Sandal

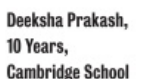
Alpha triangle

- 1 20th letter
- 2 Pronoun
- 3 Take a chair
- 4 Catalogue
- 5 Break apart
- 6 Dutch export
- 7 Elevates or improves

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20  Today you may be very happy. You will be busy at work. Your seniors may appreciate your work. You are likely to see some changes into your place, position or responsibilities at work in terms of promotions. Your opponents and hidden enemies may be under control now. Singles and lovebirds may take important decisions in terms of marriage.



Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCGF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

FAST FIVE

C	A	S	T	E
R	E	W	E	D
I	C	I	N	G
S	I	N	G	E
P	A	G	E	D

RIDDER

1. Tom, Dick, and Harry.
2. Up, Up, and Away.
3. Bell, Book, and Candle.

SOLVE IN 10

$$\frac{1}{(1/2)^2} + \frac{1}{(1/2)^{10}} = \frac{1}{(1/2)^{20}}$$
$$\frac{1}{1/2^2} + \frac{1}{1/2^{10}} = \frac{1}{1/2^{20}}$$

flow, fowl,
BULL'S EYE

wood,
wood,
TWO-FOLD, wolf,

Back to work

Alia is all set to return to shoot for a song and upcoming film

After her maternity leave Alia Bhatt will return to shoot a song for Karan Johar's Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani after which she will start shooting for Sanjay Leela Bhansali's grand musical Baiju Bawra. This will be Alia's second collaboration with Bhansali after the spectacularly successful Gangubai Kathiawadi and will require a different level of preparedness from the actress.

According to sources there is a whole lot of music and songs involved in the project. "Bhansali has already recorded 12-15 songs for Baiju Bawra. The male protagonist plays a singer. But Alia's character too has plenty of musical scope in the script. She will be prepping for the part before the actual shooting begins," reveals a source close to the project.

Alia's character too has plenty of musical scope in the script. She will be prepping for the part before the actual shooting begins

Yesterday, ETimes spoke to SLB's long-time associate and director of Heeramandi Mitakshara Kumar who also revealed details of Baiju Bawra and said, "We are going to do Baiju with Ranveer Singh next. It will start after Heeramandi. It also has Alia in the cast."

-ETimes

Welcome to sisterhood

Janhvi and Khushi Kapoor share a very healthy sisterly bond and the duo never fails to shower love on each other on social media. And the 'Good Luck Jerry' actor's latest post is proof.

Taking to Instagram on Friday, Janhvi dropped pictures with her sister along with a caption, "missed u."

In the sun-kissed picture, Janhvi and Khushi could be seen hugging each other and posing for the camera.

'The Archies' is an official adaptation of an American comic 'Archies'.

Archie comics feature teenage characters named Archie Andrews, Jughead Jones, Betty Cooper, Veronica Lodge, Reggie Mantle and Sabrina Spellman, and have seen several adaptations over the years.

The seven young performers will portray well-known characters from Archie Comics. The trailer, which features the characters and a catchy



music track by Ankur Tiwari and the Islanders, gives viewers a glimpse into the universe that Akhtar promises to bring to life for them.

The film will stream exclusively on OTT. Janhvi, on the other hand, was recently seen in the survival thriller film 'Mili' alongside Sunny Kaushal and Manoj Pahwa.

Last shot of the year

Actress Sara Ali Khan is on a wrap up spree. After finishing the shoot of 'Ae Watan Mere Watan', she went to the UK to kick start the shoot of her next film.

Shooting for her fourth film of the year, the actress wrapped up the hectic month of December and shot for her last scene of the year, 2022.

She will be back on the schedule of the film again in January after the Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Taking to her social media, Sara shared a

picture from the sets of her ongoing project as she wrapped up the project. While expressing her excitement to shoot her last shot of the year. She captioned the post: "AND THAT'S A WRAP ON DECEMBER 2022! JUST GAVE THE LAST SHOT OF THE YEAR. see you NOW in 2023."

In the selfie with her team, Sara can be seen donning the action avatar with a few bruises on her face. She is reportedly shooting for Jagan Shakti's next film alongside Tiger Shroff in London.

Sara later put up a picture of her with her bags and she seems set to return home for Christmas. Sara will also be next seen in 'Gaslight'.

-IANS



Justice through revenge

VEDHA (KANNADA)

3.5 RATING ★★★★★

• **DIRECTOR** A Harsha
 • **ACTORS** Dr Shivarajkumar, Ganavi Laxman, Umashree, Aditi Sagar, Veena Ponnappa, Cheluvarej, Vinay Biddappa, Shwetha Chengappa, Raghu Shivamogga.
 • **CERTIFICATION** U/A
 • **DURATION** 156 minutes



Vedha is Dr Shivarajkumar's 125th movie and the first movie for his better half Geetha as a producer. For director A Harsha, this is the fourth movie with Shivarajkumar in the lead role.

The film starts off with a scene of a woman being harassed by a man as she is in a bus

commuting to her workplace in Mysuru. The woman comes home and tells her grandmother that she will not go to work. Her grandmother advises her to read a book

about Vedha, a man who is a terror for villains and kind towards the weak and ready to do anything to ensure his family is happy.

The director then takes us back to the 1980s to show us Vedha's story. Vedha (Dr Shivarajkumar) is shown welcoming his daughter Kanaka (Aditi Sagar) from a prison. Both go on a killing spree and wander from one village to another to eliminate vicious people. Vedha also rescues two women from being sold as bonded labourers and punishes people responsible for bonded labour.

Police Inspector Rama (Veena Ponnappa) tries to nab Vedha and Kanaka. A flashback is on how Vedha got there: Vedha was leading a happy life with Sakri (Umashree) by his side in Shirli village during the 1980s. He gets married to Pushpa (Ganavi Laxman) in a peculiar situation, and has to go to prison for three days. He returns home only to see Pushpa killed by a few drunkard and lewd

persons. Police had arrested Kanaka and the court sent her to a juvenile detention centre. What happens to Vedha and Kanaka is what the film is all about.

Dr Shivarajkumar has acted well. His performance is superb in action scenes. He deserves appreciation for giving space to women. He has worked hard in dance scenes along with veteran actress Umashree who has acted well. Her dialogue delivery and dancing skills deserve appreciation. Ganavi Laxman walks away with all honours for her sterling performance. Shwetha Chengappa, who plays a sex worker, is glamorous and her body language is superb. Aditi Sagar has excelled in the climax scene.

Among the songs, Gillakko and Pushpa are good. Arjun Janya's music is good. Swamy J Gowda has done a good job behind the camera. It would have been better had the director reduced its running time by 10 to 20 minutes.

Needless to say, it is a must-watch for Dr Shivarajkumar's fans.

-Y Maheswara Reddy